

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 4-16, and 18-24 are pending in this application. Claims 11-14 and 20-22 are withdrawn from consideration. By this amendment, Claims 1 and 15 are amended, and Claims 3 and 17 are canceled. Claims 23 and 24 are added. No new matter has been added.

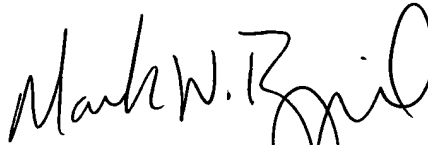
Applicant notes with appreciation that Claims 3, 8, 9, and 17 are objected to as depending from a rejected base claim, but are indicated to be otherwise allowable. By this amendment, Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations of dependent Claim 3. Claim 15 is amended to incorporate the limitations of dependent Claim 17. Newly added Claim 23 incorporates the limitations of dependent Claim 8, and newly added Claim 24 incorporates the limitations of dependent Claim 9.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims of the present invention, including newly added Claims 23 and 24, define subject matter patentable over the references cited by the Examiner and that the application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the below listed telephone number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 03-2469. Moreover, if the deposit account

contains insufficient funds, the Commissioner is hereby invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to arrange payment.

Respectfully submitted,



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